

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—Some momentum grades.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—Which always come against a company or a Government. But the Government is in possession of the railroad now, and I am also informed that the Government has notified the Grand Trunk Pacific that they are ready to hand the road over to them, but the Grand Trunk Pacific are not ready to receive it.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—Not coming across?

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—It will take several years. The hon. gentleman from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain) said the company was operating of the portion from Superior Junction to Winnipeg. They may have running rights on that part of the road, but I hope the Government will see its way not to grant any more rights to the Grand Trunk Pacific before they have complied with their contract and agreement—they have contracted to operate the road in its whole length. I hope they will not permit the company to use the only part of the road which is to their advantage, and to leave the other. Of course, if the Government cannot induce the company to take over the road, they will have to operate it themselves, at what cost I do not know. It will be ten times worse than the Intercolonial railway, but still they will have to operate it. I hope if the Government operates it, they will operate the road from Moncton to Winnipeg. In looking over Mr. Autier's letter, and in perusing that letter we could discover a good partisan grip.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—He is a Tory.

Hon. Mr. DAVID—Is the recommendation of the Board of Trade of Quebec worth nothing?

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—No, they simply say we should operate the road.

Hon. Mr. DAVID—Common sense would tell us that.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—And he says in his letter that the fact that the road is not being operated has prevented many settlers from going to that Abitibi district, and that if it were operated we would see numerous settlers going there. I believe he is mistaken. We from the province of Quebec know very well that it is not a question of railway that prevents people from settling on Government land; it is the Department of Lands and Forests of the

province of Quebec, with their poor policy of trying to prevent a settlement of Government lands as long as possible. This is not a party question; all the papers complain that the Liberal Government of Quebec instead of trying to induce the settlers to go on Government lands, prevent their settling on these lands as long as a single stick of good merchantable wood has not been removed.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—Does the hon. gentleman know the Crown Lands Department has sold over 1,500 lots already around Amos, and that any quantity of land to-day is at the disposal of the settlers?

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—Then all the good timber must be removed from that place, because I know it is the policy of the Government at the present time to retain those lands.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—It has never been lumbered over at all.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—Any settler wanting to settle on Crown Lands in Quebec must travel 50 or 100 miles to see an agent, and when he gets there he finds the land is withdrawn from sale; it is in the reserved portions of the township. He has to go back and travel around for five or six months before he succeeds in obtaining a lot, and he will never obtain it before the lumber merchant has cleared all the good timber from the lot.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—I would not like the hon. gentleman to place himself on record with such a statement as that, because the part of the province under discussion has never been under licenses at all.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—Then there is no timber on it. I must say that the motion of my hon. friend from Mille Îles (Hon. Mr. David) was not necessary. He should have saved his time and all the trouble he took to make his motion. I may remark, en passant, that while he has a perfect right to do as he pleases, he is a great deal more anxious to discover grievances now than he was before 1911.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I had not thought of saying anything on this question, but the speech of the hon. gentleman from Lauzon (Hon. Mr. Bolduc) it seems to me, is intended as a sort of challenge to members who do not agree with him, to intervene in the discussion. I thought the hon. gen-